

# Preliminary Monthly Fatal Drug-Related Overdose Counts

All data below are preliminary based on the date the data were extracted. These counts may not represent all overdose-related deaths that occurred during the corresponding time period.

---

Date Report Produced: 12/21/2023

## Data Notes:

- Deaths occurred in California (residents & non-residents). Counts exclude deaths to California residents that occurred out-of-state.
- Counts are reported by the month and year the death occurred.
- Indicators are not mutually exclusive.

## Indicator Definitions:

- Indicators are based on the Tenth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases codes (ICD-10).
- All substance-specific indicators meet the All Drug definition in addition to a substance specific ICD-10 code.

**All Drug:** Any of the following codes listed as the underlying cause of death; X40-X44, X60-X64, X85, and Y10-14

**Any Opioid:** T40.0-T40.4, T40.6

**Prescription Opioids excluding Synthetics:** T40.2, T40.3

**Heroin:** T40.1

**Synthetics excluding Methadone:** T40.4

**Fentanyl:** Overdose deaths involving fentanyl and associated analogs were identified by using a text searching algorithm of death certificate text fields.

**Psychostimulants with Abuse Potential:** T43.6

**Cocaine:** T40.5

---

For more information about the data definitions and for previous years of data, visit the [California Overdose Surveillance Dashboard](https://cdph.ca.gov/OpiumDashboard) (cdph.ca.gov/OpiumDashboard). Please note, the California Dashboard death data update quarterly and therefore may not match the counts in Table 1.

**Data Source:** California Comprehensive Master Death File 2022 and California Comprehensive Death File (Dynamic) 2023.

**Data extraction date:** 11/7/2023 and 12/13/2023

Table 1. Preliminary monthly drug-related overdose deaths by substance

| Month and Year        | All Drug | Any Opioid | Prescription Opioids excl. Synthetics | Heroin | Synthetics excl. Methadone | Fentanyl | Psychostimulants with Abuse Potential | Cocaine |
|-----------------------|----------|------------|---------------------------------------|--------|----------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------|---------|
| <b>September 2022</b> | 1091     | 694        | 104                                   | 46     | 605                        | 607      | 615                                   | 132     |
| <b>October 2022</b>   | 966      | 672        | 88                                    | 38     | 610                        | 607      | 517                                   | 139     |
| <b>November 2022</b>  | 926      | 640        | 85                                    | 31     | 587                        | 584      | 506                                   | 107     |
| <b>December 2022</b>  | 1030     | 736        | 107                                   | 39     | 662                        | 654      | 574                                   | 137     |
| <b>January 2023</b>   | 1069     | 728        | 96                                    | 38     | 659                        | 654      | 623                                   | 145     |
| <b>February 2023</b>  | 940      | 633        | 76                                    | 37     | 589                        | 586      | 511                                   | 121     |
| <b>March 2023</b>     | 1069     | 732        | 99                                    | 30     | 666                        | 662      | 564                                   | 142     |
| <b>April 2023</b>     | 990      | 722        | 73                                    | 33     | 670                        | 664      | 566                                   | 136     |
| <b>May 2023</b>       | 1007     | 716        | 91                                    | 25     | 656                        | 655      | 541                                   | 160     |
| <b>June 2023</b>      | 843      | 618        | 67                                    | 25     | 569                        | 559      | 469                                   | 104     |
| <b>July 2023</b>      | 872      | 602        | 76                                    | 21     | 548                        | 546      | 526                                   | 128     |
| <b>August 2023</b>    | 765      | 543        | 64                                    | 23     | 503                        | 502      | 430                                   | 129     |

Data Sources: California Comprehensive Master Death File 2022 and California Comprehensive Death File (Dynamic) 2023.  
 Data extraction date: 11/7/2023 and 12/13/2023

CDPH Substance and Addiction Prevention Branch - Overdose Prevention Initiative  
[Substance and Addiction Prevention Branch webpage](http://www.cdph.ca.gov/sapb) (www.cdph.ca.gov/sapb)